

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of processing reservation data at a terminal, comprising:
receiving as input at the terminal a request for reservation information including one
5 or more reservation criteria;

transmitting said request over the network to a remote server;
receiving from the remote server a set of reservation data selected according
to said one or more reservation criteria;

receiving as input at the terminal a selection request;
10 selecting for display a subset of reservation data from said set of reservation
data in accordance with the selection request; and
displaying said subset of reservation data at the terminal.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said one or more reservation
criteria specifies a date range and the set of reservation data relates to said date
15 range.

3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said one or more reservation
criteria includes a first date range and a second date range and the set of reservation
data relates to said first and second date ranges.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the selection request indicates a
20 date within the first date range and the selecting step includes selecting, as said
subset of reservation data, reservation data relating to a plurality of dates within the
second date range, dependent on the indicated date within the first date range.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, including further receiving as input at the terminal a further selection request indicating one of said plurality of dates within the second date range.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, including submitting to the remote server a reservation request specifying the dates indicated by said selection requests.

7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said one or more reservation criteria includes a plurality of reservation types and the set of reservation data relates to each of said plurality of reservation types.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said selection request indicates a subset of said plurality of reservation types and said subset of reservation data relates to said subset of reservation types.

9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the set of reservation data includes price information relating to each reservation and said selection request causes selection of said subset of reservation data according to said price information.

10. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said one or more reservation criteria specifies a date range and the set of reservation data relates to said date range and said subset of reservation data is selected to comprise the lowest price reservation for each day within the date range.

11. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said one or more reservation criteria includes a first date range and a second date range and the set of reservation data relates to said first and second date ranges and said subset of reservation data is selected to comprise the lowest price reservation for each day within the date range.

12. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the selection request indicates a date within the first date range and the selecting step includes selecting, as said subset of reservation data, reservation data relating to a plurality of dates within the second date range, dependent on the indicated date within the first date range and
- 5 said plurality of dates are selected according to a selection rule dependent on said subset of reservation types.

13. A method as claimed in claim 1, further including:
- receiving as input at the terminal a further request for reservation information including one or more further reservation criteria;
- 10 transmitting said further request over the network to a remote server;
- receiving from the remote server a further set of reservation data dependent on said one or more further reservation criteria;
- selecting for display a further subset of reservation data from said set of further reservation data in accordance with said selection request; and
- 15 displaying said further subset of reservation data at the terminal.

14. A method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said one or more reservation criteria specifies a date range and the set of reservation data relates to said date range and said further reservation criteria includes a further date range and the further set of reservation data relates to said further date range.

- 20 15. A method of displaying electronically reservation availability information for first and second ranges of reservable items, comprising:
- storing reservation availability records for said ranges;

storing reservation rules relating to combinations of one or more reservable items from said first range and one or more reservable items from said second range;

receiving as input a selection of one or more of said items from one of the
5 first and second ranges;

determining amended availability information for the items in the other one of the first and second ranges on the basis of said selection and said reservation rules; and displaying said amended availability information.

16. A method as claimed in claim 15, further including displaying
10 availability information derived from said reservation availability records for said first and second ranges, prior to receiving said selection as input.

17. A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said reservation availability records are stored locally.

18. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said reservation availability
15 records are stored locally.

19. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said reservation availability records include an array of availability data, the position within the array indicating the position within the respective range.

20. A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said reservation rules are
20 stored locally.

21. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the reservation rules are stored as one or more arrays of data, each data value within the array indicating an item from the second range, the position of each data value indicating a corresponding item from the first range.

22. A method of creating a set of reservation availability records for a set of items, including:

obtaining availability information for each of said set of items; and encoding said availability information as data within an array, the position of the data within the array indicating the item to which that data relates.

23. A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein said items each include a plurality of subitems, the availability information including information relating to each of said subitems, and the data for each item indicating availability if there is availability for any of the subitems included within that item.

24. A method of receiving and displaying reservation availability information for a set of items within a range, including receiving a data array including availability data for each of said items, and

displaying the availability data for each of said items, associated with a value within said range derived from the position of the availability data within said array.

25. A set of reservation availability records created by the method of claim

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26. A set of reservation availability records created by the method of claim

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27. A computer program arranged to perform a method according to claim 1, when executed at said terminal.

28. A computer program arranged to perform a method according to any one of claim 15, when executed by a suitably arranged computer.

29. A signal encoding a computer program as claimed in claim 28.

30. An electronic travel reservation system comprising a server accessible over a network by a terminal, wherein the terminal sends a request specifying a plurality of dates and a specified route to the server and the server responds with the fare and availability records for the specified dates and route, the terminal then
5 displaying one or more options to select from the requested fare and availability records and displaying a subset of said records according to a user selection of said one or more options.

31. A system as claimed in claim 30, wherein said displayed options include one or more options to select a specific fare type, and the subset of said records
10 comprises records having a user-selected fare type.

32. A system as claimed in claim 30, wherein said displayed options include an option to select a lowest fare and the subset of said records comprises records corresponding to the lowest fare for each of said plurality of dates.

33. A system as claimed in claim 30, wherein said subset of said records is
15 displayed by displaying some or all of said specified dates, each with an indicium selected from a set of indicia indicating the availability of a fare type for the respective day.